GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1708
ANSWERED ON:19.07.2004
UTILISATION OF RAIN WATER FOR IRRIGATION
Murmu Shri Rupchand

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has chalked out any plan to utilise rain water for irrigation and other purposes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the financial and technical assistance provided to State Governments for effective implementation of the said plan?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) to (c) Water being a State subject, the schemes for irrigation and other purposes are planned, implemented and funded by the respective State Government. For speedy completion of ongoing water resources projects, the Central Government has launched the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP). Under the programme, financial assistance in the form of central loan is being extended to State Governments to help them complete the ongoing irrigation projects in a time bound manner so that the benefits could accrue at the earliest. A Central Sector Scheme on "Study of Recharge to Ground Water" was launched during the Ninth Five Year Plan at an estimated cost of Rs. 25.00 crore. The scheme has also been continued for the first 2 years of the Tenth Five Year Plan at a revised cost of Rs. 35.81 crore. With a view to encourage rain water harvesting and artificial recharge to ground water, the Central Ground Water Board has proposed a Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Artificial Recharge to Groundwater and Rainwater Harvesting" at an estimated cost of Rs. 175 crore for implementation during the remaining part of the Tenth Five Year Plan. Thrust to AIBP and launching of schemes for "Restoring of Water Bodies" and "Water Harvesting" has been announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech-2004.